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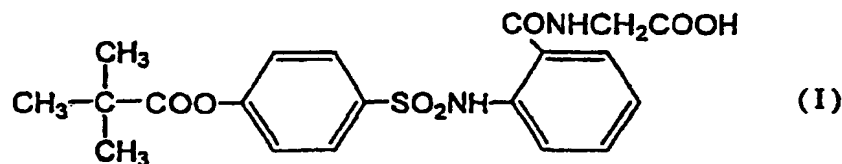
(71) Applicants:
• **ONO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.**
Osaka-shi, Osaka 541-8526 (JP)
• **Senju Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.**
Osaka-shi, Osaka 541-0046 (JP)

(72) Inventors:
• **Naka, Hiroaki**
Kobe-shi, Hyogo 654-0132 (JP)
• **Kawabata, Kazuhito** Minase Research Institute
Mishima-gun, Osaka 618-8585 (JP)
• **Tokushige, Hideki**
Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-2116 (JP)

(74) Representative: **Hall, Marina**
Elkington and Fife
Prospect House
8 Pembroke Road
Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1XR (GB)

(54) **PREVENTIVE AND THERAPEUTIC AGENTS FOR EYE DISEASES**

(57) The present invention provides a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases, especially ophthalmic inflammatory diseases and corneal ulcer, comprising as an active ingredient a compound represented by the formula (I) :



or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof.

EP 1 213 018 A1

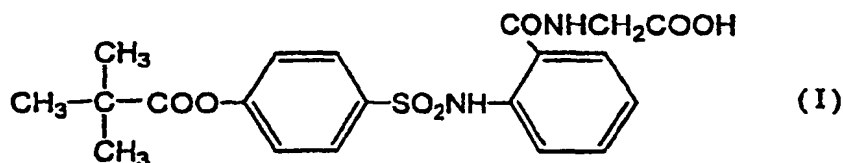
Description

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The present invention relates to a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases having a leukocyte (neutrophil)-derived elastase inhibitory activity.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] JP-B 5-81586 and JP-A 5-194366 (corresponding to EP-A 539223) disclose a compound represented by the formula (I) :



(hereinafter referred to as a compound of Formula (I)) and a salt or hydrate thereof, which has a human neutrophil-derived elastase inhibitory activity and is effective for preventing and treating diseases such as pulmonary emphysema, atherosclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis.

[0003] On the other hand, the ophthalmologic field also involves various diseases relating to leukocytes and their elastases. For example, ophthalmic infections, corneal traumas, corneal ulcers and uveitis may be mentioned. In an ophthalmic infection, the cellular infiltration of leukocytes results in an intraocular abscess [Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis. Sci., 40, 385-391 (1999)]. An alkaline trauma (erosion) which is one of corneal traumas allows leukocytes to be infiltrated into corneal stroma cells at an early stage of the alkaline erosion, two to three weeks after which the elevation of leukocyte elastase activity is observed [Ophthalmic. Res., 29, 154-160 (1997)]. Also in a case of corneal ulcers, a corneal wound or detachment results in the infiltration of leukocytes into a corneal stroma, which leads to the release or secretion of a protease such as an elastase or collagen [Klin. Monatsbl. Augenheilkd, 188, 593-595 (1986)]. An uveitis, especially Behcet's disease, was reported to undergo an increase in a plasma leukocyte elastase [Clin. Chim. Acta 236:129-134 (1995), Acta, Ophthalmol. Scand. 75:287-289 (1997), J.Reumatol. 25: 326-328 (1998)]. While leukocytes or their elastases were reported to be involved in the ophthalmic diseases mentioned above, no actual effect of the administration of an elastase inhibitor was reported.

[0004] While in JP-A 5-221872 (corresponding to EP-A 519354) and JP-A 6-509232 (corresponding to EP-A 596118), a microbe-derived substance having human leukocyte elastase inhibitory activity is described generally to be useful as a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament against a corneal scar tissue formation or a fibroblast proliferation [eye solidification (burn, mechanical or chemical damage, keratoconjunctivitis) and the like], it was not administered actually to verify its effect, and is different totally from a compound of Formula (I).

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

[0005] An objective of the present invention is to develop a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases containing as an active ingredient a compound of Formula (I).

[0006] This objective as well as other objectives and advantages of the present invention will be explained hereinafter with reference to the attached drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007]

Fig. 1 is a graph showing the effect of an eye drop formulation of N-[o-(p-pivaloyloxybenzenesulfonyl-amino)benzoyl]glycine monosodium salt tetrahydrate (hereinafter referred to as Compound A) on an endotoxin-induced keratitis (effect on a corneal opacity). Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4). A statistically significant difference from a control is analyzed with $p < 0.05$ (Wilcoxon test, one-sided).

Fig. 2 is a graph showing the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation on an endotoxin-induced keratitis (effect

on a corneal ulcer). Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4). A statistically significant difference from a control is analyzed with $p < 0.05$ (Wilcoxon test, one-sided).

Fig. 3 is a graph showing the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation on an endotoxin-induced keratitis (effect on a vascularization). Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4).

Fig. 4 shows the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation 15 days after the challenge on an endotoxin-induced keratitis. Each column represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4). A statistically significant difference from a control is analyzed with $p < 0.05$ (Wilcoxon test, one-sided).

Fig. 5 is a graph showing the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation on an alkaline erosion keratitis (effect on a corneal opacity). Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4).

Fig. 6 is a graph showing the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation on an alkaline erosion keratitis (effect on a corneal ulcer). Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4). A statistically significant difference from a control is analyzed with $p < 0.05$ (Wilcoxon test, one-sided).

Fig. 7 is a graph showing the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation on an alkaline erosion keratitis (effect on a vascularization). Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=4).

Fig. 8 is a graph showing the effect of a Compound A eye drop formulation on a pyocyanic corneal ulcer immediately after the inoculation of the microbe. Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=6). A statistically significant difference from a control is analyzed with $p < 0.05$ (Wilcoxon test, one-sided).

Fig. 9 is a graph showing the effects of the instillation of Compound A and lomefloxacin on a pyocyanic corneal ulcer one day after the inoculation of the microbe and later. Each symbol represents a mean \pm standard deviation (n=5-6). A statistically significant difference from a control is analyzed with * $p < 0.05$ and ** $p < 0.01$ (Steel test, one-sided).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008] The present inventors found out that a compound represented by Formula (I) or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof exhibits a marked prophylactic and therapeutic effect against various ophthalmic diseases.

[0009] Thus, the present invention provides a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases, especially ophthalmic inflammatory diseases and corneal ulcer, comprising as an active ingredient a compound represented by Formula (I) or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof.

[0010] The present invention also provides a method for preventing and treating an ophthalmic disease which comprises administering an active ingredient mentioned above to a mammal in need of a treatment for such ophthalmic disease.

[0011] Furthermore, the present invention provides use of an active ingredient mentioned above in the manufacture of a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases.

[0012] Moreover, the present invention provides an eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension of an active ingredient described above.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

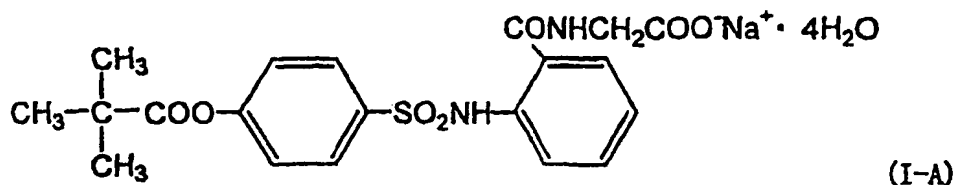
[0013] The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to the present invention is preferably in a dosage form for a local administration such as an eye drop formulation or an ophthalmic ointment, which is useful for preventing and treating various ophthalmic diseases such as ophthalmic infections (for example, corneal herpes, bacterial keratitis, bacterial conjunctivitis, mycotic keratitis, acanthamebic keratitis, infectious endophthalmitis, infectious corneal ulcer and the like), corneal trauma, cicatricial keratoconjunctival diseases (for example, alkaline erosive keratoconjunctivitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, ophthalmic pemphigoid and the like), corneal ulcer (for example, Mooren's ulcer, corneal ulcer subsequent to chronic rheumatoid arthritis or collagen disease, Terrien's margine degeneration, catarrhal corneal ulcer, infectious corneal ulcer and the like), vitamin A insufficiency-induced keratomalacia, necrotic keratitis, neuroparalytic keratitis, diabetic keratopathy, keratoconjunctiva sicca, contact lens-induced keratoconjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis, uveitis, Behcet's syndrome, inflammation after cataract surgery and pseudopterygium, especially a keratoconjunctival inflammatory disease (for example, corneal herpes, bacterial keratitis, bacterial conjunctivitis, mycotic keratitis, acanthamebic keratitis, corneal trauma, alkaline erosive keratoconjunctivitis, corneal ulcer, vitamin A insufficiency-induced keratomalacia, necrotic keratitis, neuroparalytic keratitis, diabetic keratopathy, keratoconjunctiva sicca, contact lens-induced keratoconjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis and the like). It is useful also for preventing and treating corneal ulcer (including various corneal ulcers described above and those induced otherwise), especially an infectious corneal ulcer.

[0014] A compound of Formula (I) used as an active ingredient according to the present invention or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof is a known compound described in JP-B 5-81586, and can be produced, in accordance with the procedure described therein, by the amidation of p-pivaloyloxybenzenesulfonyl chloride followed by the con-

version into a salt by a known method. The resultant compound may also be converted into a hydrate by a known method.

[0015] A pharmacologically acceptable salt of a compound of Formula (I) may for example be an inorganic salt such as hydrochloride, hydrobromide, hydroiodide, sulfate, phosphate and nitrate, an organic salt such as acetate, lactate, tartarate, benzoate, citrate, methanesulfonate, ethanesulfonate, benzenesulfonate, toluenesulfonate, isethionate, glucuronate and gluconate, an alkaline metal salt (sodium salt, potassium salt and the like), an alkaline earth metal salt (calcium salt, magnesium salt and the like), an ammonium salt, a pharmacologically acceptable amine salt (tetramethylammonium salt, triethylamine salt, methylamine salt, dimethylamine salt, cyclopentylamine salt, benzylamine salt, phenethylamine salt, piperidine salt, monoethanolamine salt, diethanolamine salt, tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane salt, lysine salt, arginine salt, N-methyl-D-glucamine salt and the like).

[0016] One preferred especially as an active ingredient used in the present invention is a sodium salt tetrahydrate of a compound of Formula (I), i.e., N-[o-(p-pivaloyloxybenzenesulfonylamino)benzoyl]glycine monosodium salt tetrahydrate (described in Example 3 in JP-A 5-194366 corresponding to EP-A 539223) represented by Formula (I-A) :



[0017] The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases according to the present invention, on the basis of its leukocyte-derived elastase inhibitory activity, is useful in preventing and treating various ophthalmic diseases such as an ophthalmic infections (for example, corneal herpes, bacterial keratitis, bacterial conjunctivitis, mycotic keratitis, acanthamebic keratitis, infectious endophthalmitis, infectious corneal ulcer and the like), corneal trauma, cicatricial keratoconjunctival diseases (for example, alkaline erosive keratoconjunctivitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, ophthalmic pemphigoid and the like), corneal ulcer (for example, Mooren's ulcer, corneal ulcer subsequent to chronic rheumatoid arthritis or collagen disease, Terrien's margine degeneration, catarrhal corneal ulcer, infectious corneal ulcer and the like), vitamin A insufficiency-induced keratomalacia, necrotic keratitis, neuroparalytic keratitis, diabetic keratopathy, keratoconjunctiva sicca, contact lens-induced keratoconjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis, uveitis, Behcet's syndrome, inflammation after cataract surgery and pseudopterygium, especially a keratoconjunctival inflammatory disease (for example, corneal herpes, bacterial keratitis, bacterial conjunctivitis, mycotic keratitis, acanthamebic keratitis, corneal trauma, alkaline erosive keratoconjunctivitis, corneal ulcer, vitamin A insufficiency-induced keratomalacia, necrotic keratitis, neuroparalytic keratitis, diabetic keratopathy, keratoconjunctiva sicca, contact lens-induced keratoconjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis and the like). It is useful also for preventing and treating corneal ulcer (including various corneal ulcers described above and those induced otherwise), especially infectious corneal ulcer.

[0018] The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases according to the present invention can be mixed with a pharmacologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent which is known per se and formulated by a method known per se into a pharmaceutical or a veterinary medicine in various oral or parenteral dosage forms such as tablets, capsules, granules, injection solutions, eye drops and ophthalmic ointments, and it is especially preferred to be used in a local dosage form, preferably an eye drop formulation or an ophthalmic ointment.

[0019] The eye drop formulation may for example be aqueous formulations such as aqueous eye drops, aqueous suspension eye drops, viscous eye drops and solubilized eye drops as well as non-aqueous formulations such as non-aqueous eye drops and non-aqueous suspension eye drops, with an aqueous formulation being preferred. One preferred especially is an aqueous suspension eye drop formulation.

[0020] The aqueous eye drop formulation may contain various additives incorporated ordinarily, such as buffering agents (e.g., phosphate buffers, borate buffers, citrate buffers, tartarate buffers, acetate buffers, amino acids, sodium acetate, sodium citrate and the like), isotonicities (e.g., saccharides such as sorbitol, glucose and mannitol, polyhydric alcohols such as glycerin, concentrated glycerin, polyethylene glycol and propylene glycol, salts such as sodium chloride), preservatives or antiseptics (e.g., benzalkonium chloride, benzethonium chloride, p-oxybenzoates such as methyl p-oxybenzoate or ethyl p-oxybenzoate, benzyl alcohol, phenethyl alcohol, sorbic acid or its salt, thimerosal, chlorobutanol and the like), solubilizing aids or stabilizing agents (e.g., cyclodextrins and their derivative, water-soluble poly-

mers such as polyvinyl pyrrolidone, surfactants such as polysorbate 80 (Tween 80)), pH modifiers (e.g., hydrochloric acid, acetic acid, phosphoric acid, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, ammonium hydroxide and the like), thickening agents (e.g., hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose and their salts), chelating agents (e.g., sodium edetate, sodium citrate, condensed sodium phosphate) and the like.

[0021] The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension may also contain suspending agents (e.g., polyvinyl pyrrolidone, glycerin monostearate) and dispersing agents (e.g., surfactants such as tyloxapol and polysorbate 80, ionic polymers such as sodium alginate) in addition to the additives listed above, whereby ensuring that the eye drop formulation is a further uniform microparticulate and satisfactorily dispersed aqueous suspension.

[0022] When the eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension is produced, it is preferable to use a pH modifier to make the formulation acidic pH (pH4 to 5.5). A preferred pH modifier is hydrochloric acid.

[0023] The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension preferably contains sodium citrate or sodium acetate as a buffering agent, concentrated glycerin and/or propylene glycol as an isotonicity and polyvinyl pyrrolidone as a suspending agent. A preferred dispersing agent is a surfactant and/or sodium alginate. Such surfactant is preferably tyloxapol or polysorbate 80.

[0024] The ophthalmic ointment may employ an ointment base known per se, such as purified lanolin, petrolatum, plastibase, liquid paraffin, polyethylene glycol and the like.

[0025] The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament of the present invention may be administered to a mammal which is or may be suffered from an ophthalmic disease (e.g., human, rabbit, dog, cat, cattle, horse, monkey). While the administration route and the dose may vary depending on a symptom, age and body weight of a subject, the concentration is about 0.001 to 5 (w/v) %, preferably about 0.01 to 3 (w/v) % as a free form of a compound of Formula (I) contained in an aqueous eye drop formulation when given to an adult, and is given preferably 1 to 8 times a day with a single dose being one to several drops.

[0026] When given as the ophthalmic ointment, the dose is about 0.001 to 5 (w/v) %, preferably about 0.01 to 3 (w/v) % as a free form of a compound of Formula (I), and is given preferably 1 to 4 times a day as appropriate in view of the symptom.

[0027] Unless the intended purpose of use is affected adversely, the prophylactic and therapeutic medicament of the present invention may contain or may be used together with other appropriate pharmacologically effective substances, for example, steroidal anti-inflammatory agents (dexamethasone, prednisolone and the like), non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents (diclofenac sodium, pranoprofen and the like), antiallergic agents (tranilast, ketotifen fumarate, sodium cromoglicate and the like), antihistamic agents (diphenhydramine hydrochloride and the like), glaucoma-treating agents (pilocarpine hydrochloride, physostigmine salicylate, timolol, isopropylunoprostone and the like), antibiotics (gentamycin sulfate, fradiomycin sulfate, tobramycin, sulbenicillin, cefmenoxime, erythromycin, colistin, oxytetracycline, polymyxin B, chloramphenicol, micronomicin, dibekacin, sisomicin and the like), antibacterial agents (sulfamethizole, sulfamethoxazole, ofloxacin, norfloxacin, lomefloxacin hydrochloride, enoxacin, ciprofloxacin hydrochloride, cinoxacin, sparfloxacin, tosufloxacin tosylate, nalidixic acid, pipemidic acid trihydrate, pipemidic acid, fleroxacin, levofloxacin and the like), and antiviral agents (idoxuridine, acyclovir and the like), and antimycotic agents (pimaricin, fluconazole, miconazole, amphotericin B, flucytosine, itraconazole and the like).

[0028] The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament of the present invention is used preferably together with at least one selected from the antibiotic, antibacterial, antiviral and antimycotic agents listed above in prophylaxis or therapy especially for an ophthalmic infection-induced inflammation or corneal ulcer. In such case, any of the antibiotic, antibacterial, antiviral and antimycotic agents can be combined with the prophylactic and therapeutic medicament of the present invention in a single formulation, or may be instilled separately. When being instilled separately, the prophylactic and therapeutic medicament of the present invention may be instilled simultaneously with any of the antibiotic, antibacterial, antiviral and antimycotic agents, or successively at a certain interval. When being instilled simultaneously, any of the prophylactic and therapeutic medicament of the present invention and the antibiotic, antibacterial, antiviral and antimycotic agents is first instilled and then preferably after a certain time period another agent is instilled whereby avoiding any escape of the agent given previously. Any of the antibiotic, antibacterial, antiviral and antimycotic agents listed above may also be given systemically by means of an oral or intravenous formulation.

[0029] The present invention is further illustrated in detail by the following Experiments and Examples, which are not construed to limit the scope of the present invention.

EXPERIMENT 1

[0030] The effect of Compound A on an ophthalmic inflammatory disease was investigated as described below.

[0031] The effect of Compound A when given as eye drops was investigated in a rabbit keratitis model using an endotoxin derived from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* detected frequently in an ophthalmic infection as well as in a rabbit corneal alkaline erosion model.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

(1) Animals

5 [0032] Male Japanese albino rabbits each weighing about 2 to 2.5 kg purchased from FUKUZAKI rabbit-raising association were used. Each animal was maintained at a temperature of $24 \pm 4^\circ\text{C}$ and a humidity of $55 \pm 15\%$.

(2) Test substances

10 [0033] Compound A was given as a 1.0 % Compound A eye drop formulation prepared by suspending Compound A in a formulation base (0.1 % NaH_2PO_4 , 0.1 % polysorbate 80 and 0.9 % NaCl, pH 5.0). As a positive control, a 0.1 % betamethasone eye drop formulation (Rinderon™ solution, Sionogi) was used. In a control group, the formulation base was given.

(3) Methods

1) Effect on endotoxin-induced keratitis

20 [0034] 16 Male Japanese albino rabbits each weighing 2 to 2.5 kg were used. The rabbits were divided into four groups each having 4 animals, which were anesthetized systemically by an intramuscular administration each of 1 ml/kg of an equal volume mixture of 5 % ketamine hydrochloride and 2 % xylazine hydrochloride. Each 10 μl of a 1 % solution of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*-derived endotoxin in physiological saline was infused into each corneal stroma of a rabbit. An anterior part of an eye was observed using a slit lamp every 5 days over a period from the day after the endotoxin infusion through the 30th day, and examined for the corneal opacity, the corneal ulcer and the vascularization, which were scored in accordance with the criteria shown in Table 1. Each test substance was started to be instilled immediately after the endotoxin infusion, and then given 4 times a day in the volume of 20 μl every 2 hours.

2) Effects on alkaline erosive keratitis

30 [0035] 16 Male Japanese albino rabbits each weighing 2 to 2.5 kg were used. The rabbits were divided into four groups each having 4 animals, which were anesthetized systemically by an intramuscular administration each of 1 ml/kg of an equal volume mixture of 5 % ketamine hydrochloride and 2 % xylazine hydrochloride and also locally by an instillation of oxybuprocaine hydrochloride. A filter paper whose diameter was 10 mm and which had been immersed in 2N NaOH was brought into contact with the center of the right cornea of a rabbit for 1 minute to establish an alkaline erosion, and then the eye was rinsed immediately with 10 mL or more of physiological saline. The depth of the corneal ulcer and the vascularization were observed using a slit lamp every 5 days over a period from 5 days after the alkaline erosion through the 30th day, and scored in accordance with the criteria shown in Table 1. Each test substance was started to be instilled immediately after the alkaline erosion, and then given 4 times a day in the volume of 20 μl every 2 hours.

Table 1

Rabbit keratitis scoring criteria

45 * Corneal opacity^{remarks 1)}

A) Degree

50 0: No opacity

1: Mild opacity but distinguishable anterior chamber

2: Difficulty in distinguishing details of iris

3: Almost no transparency in anterior chamber

B) Corresponding size of corneal region

1: 1/3 or less of entire

2: 1/3 to 2/3 of entire

3: 2/3 or more of entire

* Corneal ulcer

0: No corneal ulcer

1: Ulcer of less than 1/3 in depth from corneal surface
toward inside of anterior chamber

2: Ulcer of 1/3 or more and less than 2/3 in depth from
corneal surface toward inside of anterior chamber

3: Ulcer of 2/3 or more in depth from corneal surface
toward inside of anterior chamber

4: Perforation in cornea

* Vascularization^{remarks 1)}

A) Length

0: No vascularization into cornea

1: Less than 1/3 from corneal limbus through center

2: Less than 2/3 from corneal limbus through center

3: 2/3 or more from corneal limbus through center

B) Region

0.5: Less than 1/3 of corneal circumference

1: 1/3 or more and less than 2/3 of corneal
circumference

2: 2/3 or more of corneal circumference

Remarks 1) Each as score A x score B

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1) Effects on endotoxin-induced keratitis

[0036] Figs. 1 to 3 show the change in the keratitis symptoms over a period from 5 to 30 days after the endotoxin infusion. In the control group, the severity of each symptom peaked on the 15th day, and then a gradual recovery was observed until the 30th day when almost all disappeared. In Compound A instillation group, inhibitory effects were observed on all of the evaluation items, i.e., the corneal opacity, the corneal ulcer and the vascularization, when compared with the control group. In the 0.1 % betamethasone phosphate instillation group used as the positive control, the onset of the keratitis was inhibited almost completely over the observation period. Fig. 4 shows the total score in each group on the 15th day when the severity of each symptom peaked, and revealed that the % inhibition in the Compound A instillation group when compared with the control group was 59.4 %, with a statistically significant difference.

[0037] Based on the results described above, the Compound A eye drop formulation was proven to be effective against various symptoms of the keratitis during an ophthalmic infection.

[0038] While betamethasone phosphate used here as a positive control exhibited an extremely potent anti-inflammatory activity, its use is limited frequently in view of a side effect experienced as the exacerbation of an infection over a prolonged therapy with a steroid in a clinical case of the ophthalmic infections.

[0039] Accordingly, the Compound A eye drop formulation expected to have a less risk of the exacerbation of an infection can serve as a hopeful agent against the ophthalmic infections.

2) Effects on alkaline erosive keratitis

[0040] Figs. 5 to 7 show the change in the keratitis symptoms over a period from 5 to 30 days after the corneal alkaline exposure. In the control group, the severity peaked on the 20 to 25th day after the corneal alkaline exposure. In Compound A instillation group, a significant inhibitory effect on the corneal ulcer was observed on the 20th day, but no effects were noted on the vascularization or the corneal opacity. In the 0.1 % betamethasone phosphate instillation group used as the positive control, a significant inhibitory effect was observed on the vascularization on the 15th day.

EXPERIMENT 2

MATERIALS AND METHODS

(1) Animals

[0041] Male Japanese albino rabbits each weighing about 2 kg purchased from KITAYAMA LABES CO., LTD. were used. Each animal was maintained at a temperature of $23 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$ and a humidity of $55 \pm 10\%$.

(2) Test substances

[0042] Compound A was given as a 1.0 % Compound A eye drop formulation prepared by suspending Compound A in a formulation base (0.1 % sodium acetate, 0.1 % polysorbate 80 and 0.9 % NaCl, pH 5.0). A 0.3 % lomefloxacin (LFLX) hydrochloride was used as an antibacterial agent, and physiological saline was used as a control.

(3) Methods

1) Excision of nictitating number

[0043] After instilling 0.4 % oxybuprocaine hydrochloride for a local anesthesia, a nictitating number was excised.

2) Inoculation

[0044] A causative microorganism used was a clinical isolate *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strain No. ho-134. A rabbit was anesthetized systemically with 5 % ketamine hydrochloride and 2 % xylazine hydrochloride (equal volume mixture), and then inoculated by an infusion of 30 μ l of a 3.9×10^4 CFU/ml cell suspension (1.17×10^3 CFU/cornea) using a 100 μ l microsyringe fitted with a 30G needle into one corneal stroma of a rabbit.

3) Instillation

[0045] An animal which had received an infusion of the cell suspension into the corneal stroma and whose inoculation was surely successful was grouped into one of [1] physiological saline instillation group (control, n=6) and [2] 1.0 % Compound A instillation group (Compound A group, n=6) as groups whose therapy was started immediately after the inoculation, and [3] 1.0 % Compound A instillation group (late Compound A group, n=5), [4] 0.3 % LFLX instillation group (LFLX group, n=6) and [5] 1.0 % Compound A instillation - 0.3 % LFLX instillation combination group (Compound A - LFLX combination group, n=6) as groups whose therapy was started 1 day after the inoculation (after onset of corneal ulcer), and 50 μ l of each substance was given four times a day immediately after the inoculation or 1 day after the inoculation (after onset of corneal ulcer). In the Compound A - LFLX combination group, the 1.0 % Compound A eye drop formulation was instilled about 10 minutes after the instillation of the 0.3 % LFLX eye drop formulation.

4) Observation of infectious symptoms

[0046] Each animal was examined for the corneal ulcer every 24 hours after the inoculation and scored in accordance with the rabbit corneal lesion scoring criteria (Barletta J.P. et al., Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 37:20-28, 1996) shown in Table 2.

Table 2

Rabbit corneal lesion scoring criteria

* Corneal ulcer

0:No corneal ulcer

1:Ulcer of less than 1/4 of entire cornea

2:Ulcer of 1/4 or more and less than 1/2 of entire cornea

3:Ulcer of 1/2 or more and less than 3/4 of entire cornea

4:Ulcer of 3/4 or more of entire cornea

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1) Effects on pyocyanic corneal ulcer - effect of instillation started immediately after inoculation

[0047] The results of the instillation started immediately after the inoculation are shown in Fig. 8. The corneal ulcer was exacerbated gradually in the control group (physiological saline group) toward an extensive corneal ulcer 5 days after the inoculation. On the contrary, the corneal ulcer formation was started to be inhibited 3 days after the inoculation in the Compound A group, with a statistically significant difference (Fig. 8).

2) Effects on pyocyanic corneal ulcer - effect of instillation started one day after inoculation

[0048] In the late Compound A group in which the instillation was started 1 day after the inoculation, the corneal ulcer formation was started to be inhibited 3 days after the inoculation. The LFLX group exhibited the change similar to that in the control group, with no inhibition of the corneal ulcer formation being noted (Fig. 9). In the Compound A - LFLX combination group, the corneal ulcer formation was started to be inhibited potently 3 days after the inoculation, with a statistically significant difference (Fig. 9).

[0049] Based on the results observed as described above, Compound A as an elastase inhibitor was proven to be effective against the corneal ulcer induced by bacterial infection. It was also proven that a combination of an elastase inhibitor with an antibacterial agent was more markedly effective against the corneal ulcer of a bacterial infection than each agent used alone.

EXAMPLE 1

[0050] An aqueous eye drop formulation was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	0.1 g
Sodium chloride	0.9 g
Sodium acetate	0.1 g
Benzalkonium chloride	0.005 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sodium hydroxide	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 6.0)

[0051] In about 80 ml of purified water, Compound A, sodium chloride, sodium acetate and benzalkonium chloride were dissolved. The solution was adjusted at pH 6.0 using hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide. Sterilized purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an aqueous eye drop formulation.

EXAMPLE 2

[0052] An eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	1.0 g
Sodium chloride	0.9 g
Sodium acetate	0.1 g
Polysorbate 80	0.2 g
Benzalkonium chloride	0.005 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sodium hydroxide	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 5.0)

[0053] In about 80 ml of purified water, sodium chloride, sodium acetate, polysorbate 80 and benzalkonium chloride were dissolved. The solution was adjusted at pH 5.0 using hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide, and then Compound A was added and suspended uniformly using a homogenizer. Sterilized purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension.

EXAMPLE 3

[0054] An eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	0.5 g

(continued)

Component	Quantity
Concentrated glycerin	2.6 g
Sodium acetate	0.1 g
Hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose	0.2 g
Methyl p-oxybenzoate	0.03 g
Propyl p-oxybenzoate	0.02 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sodium hydroxide	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 5.0)

[0055] About 80 ml of purified water was warmed and methyl p-oxybenzoate and propyl p-oxybenzoate were dissolved. In this solution, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose was dispersed and then cooled to room temperature for dissolution. To this solution, concentrated glycerin and sodium acetate were added, and then the pH was adjusted at 5.0 using hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide. To this solution, Compound A was added and suspended uniformly using a homogenizer. Sterilized purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension.

Example 4

[0056] The following composition was used to make an ophthalmic ointment

Component	Quantity
Compound A	2.0 g
Liquid paraffin	2.0 g
White petrolatum	to 100 g

[0057] Liquid paraffin and white petrolatum were sterilized previously by heating. Subsequently, Compound A was mixed thoroughly with liquid paraffin, and then kneaded with the white petrolatum to obtain an ophthalmic ointment.

EXAMPLE 5

[0058] An eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	1.0 g
Sodium citrate	0.1 g
Concentrated glycerin	1.2 g
Methyl p-oxybenzoate	0.026 g
Propyl p-oxybenzoate	0.014 g
Propylene glycol	1.0 g
Polyvinyl pyrrolidone (K-25)	0.5 g
Sodium alginate	0.2 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 5.0)

[0059] In about 80 ml of purified water, sodium citrate, concentrated glycerin, methyl p-oxybenzoate, propyl p-oxybenzoate, propylene glycol and polyvinyl pyrrolidone were dissolved. In this solution, Compound A was dissolved and the solution was filtered through a 0.22 μ m membrane filter, adjusted at pH 5.0 with hydrochloric acid, whereby precipitating a fine crystal (2 to 3 μ m) of Compound A. Sodium alginate was dissolved, and purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension.

[0060] After a storage for 4 weeks at 60°C, the eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension contained 101.7 % of Compound A, and exhibited a satisfactory redispersion performance without any aggregation.

EXAMPLE 6

[0061] An eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	1.0 g
Sodium citrate	0.1 g
Concentrated glycerin	1.2 g
Methyl p-oxybenzoate	0.026 g
Propyl p-oxybenzoate	0.014 g
Propylene glycol	1.0 g
Polyvinyl pyrrolidone (K-25)	0.5 g
Sodium alginate	0.2 g
Tyloxapol	0.1 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 5.0)

[0062] In about 80 ml of purified water, sodium citrate, concentrated glycerin, methyl p-oxybenzoate, propyl p-oxybenzoate, propylene glycol and polyvinyl pyrrolidone were dissolved. In this solution, Compound A was dissolved and the solution was filtered through a 0.22 μ m membrane filter, adjusted at pH 5.0 with hydrochloric acid, whereby precipitating a fine crystal (2 to 3 μ m) of Compound A. Sodium alginate and tyloxapol were dissolved, and purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension.

[0063] After a storage for 2 weeks at 60°C, the eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension contained 102.5 % of Compound A, and exhibited a satisfactory redispersion performance without any aggregation.

EXAMPLE 7

[0064] An eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	1.0 g
Sodium citrate	0.1 g
Concentrated glycerin	1.2 g
Methyl p-oxybenzoate	0.026 g
Propyl p-oxybenzoate	0.014 g
Polyvinyl pyrrolidone (K-25)	0.5 g
Sodium alginate	0.2 g
Tyloxapol	0.1 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 5.0)

[0065] In about 80 ml of purified water, sodium citrate, concentrated glycerin, methyl p-oxybenzoate, propyl p-oxybenzoate and polyvinyl pyrrolidone were dissolved. In this solution, Compound A was dissolved and the solution was filtered through a 0.22 μ m membrane filter, adjusted at pH 5.0 with hydrochloric acid, whereby precipitating a fine crystal (2 to 3 μ m) of Compound A. Sodium alginate and tyloxapol were dissolved, and purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension.

EXAMPLE 8

[0066] An eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension was prepared using the following composition.

Component	Quantity
Compound A	1.0 g

(continued)

Component	Quantity
Sodium citrate	0.1 g
Concentrated glycerin	1.2 g
Benzalkonium chloride	0.005 g
Polyvinyl pyrrolidone (K-25)	0.5 g
Sodium alginate	0.2 g
Tyloxapol	0.1 g
Hydrochloric acid	As appropriate
Sterilized purified water	to 100 mL (pH 5.0)

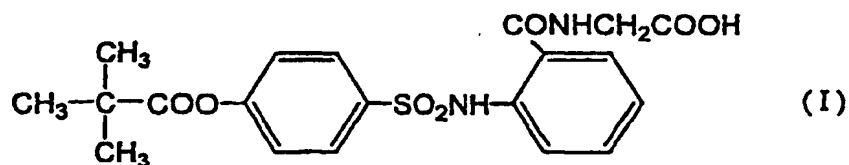
[0067] In about 80 ml of purified water, sodium citrate, concentrated glycerin and polyvinyl pyrrolidone were dissolved. In this solution, Compound A was dissolved and the solution was filtered through a 0.22 μm membrane filter, adjusted at pH 5.0 with hydrochloric acid, whereby precipitating a fine crystal (2 to 3 μm) of Compound A. Sodium alginate and tyloxapol were dissolved, and then benzalkonium chloride was dissolved. Purified water was added to make the entire volume 100 mL, whereby obtaining an eye drop formulation as an aqueous suspension.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

[0068] According to the present invention, the pharmaceutical or a veterinary medicine which is effective in preventing or treating ophthalmic diseases, especially ophthalmic inflammatory diseases and corneal ulcer, can be provided.

Claims

1. A prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases comprising as an active ingredient a compound represented by the formula (I) :



or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof.

2. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 1, wherein the active ingredient is N-[o-(p-pival-oxo-xybenzenesulfonylamino)benzoyl]glycine monosodium salt tetrahydrate.
3. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 1 which is in a dosage form for local administration.
4. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 3 which is an eye drop formulation.
5. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 4 which is an eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension.
6. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 3 which is an ophthalmic ointment.
7. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 1 which is in a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic inflammatory diseases.
8. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 7 which is in a prophylactic and therapeutic

medicament for keratoconjunctival inflammatory diseases.

9. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 1 which is in a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for corneal ulcer.

10. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to Claim 9 which is in a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for infectious corneal ulcer.

11. The prophylactic and therapeutic medicament according to any one of Claims 1 to 10 which is used together with at least one of antibiotics, antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antimycotic agents.

12. A method for preventing and treating ophthalmic diseases which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound represented by the formula (I) or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof to a mammal in need of a treatment for such ophthalmic disease.

13. The method according to Claim 12, wherein N-[o-(p-pivaloyloxybenzenesulfonylamino)benzoyl]glycine monosodium salt tetrahydrate is administered.

14. The method according to Claim 12, wherein the ophthalmic disease is an ophthalmic inflammatory disease.

15. The method according to Claim 14, wherein the ophthalmic inflammatory disease is a keratoconjunctival inflammatory disease.

16. The method according to Claim 12, wherein the ophthalmic disease is corneal ulcer.

17. The method according to Claim 16, wherein the corneal ulcer is an infectious corneal ulcer.

18. The method according to Claim 12, wherein at least one of antibiotics, antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antimycotic agents is used together.

19. Use of a compound represented by the formula (I) or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof in the manufacture of a prophylactic and therapeutic medicament for ophthalmic diseases.

20. Use according to Claim 19, wherein N-[o-(p-pivaloyloxybenzenesulfonylamino)benzoyl]glycine monosodium salt tetrahydrate is used.

21. Use according to Claim 19, wherein the ophthalmic disease is an ophthalmic inflammatory disease.

22. Use according to Claim 21, wherein the ophthalmic inflammatory disease is a keratoconjunctival inflammatory disease.

23. Use according to Claim 19, wherein the ophthalmic disease is a corneal ulcer.

24. Use according to Claim 23, wherein the corneal ulcer is an infectious corneal ulcer.

25. Use according to Claim 19, wherein at least one of antibiotics, antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antimycotic agents is used together.

26. An eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension of a compound represented by the formula (I) or a pharmacologically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof which is adjusted at pH 4 to 5.5 using at least one pH modifier.

27. The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to Claim 26, wherein the pH modifier is hydrochloric acid or hydrochloric acid in combination with sodium hydroxide.

28. The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to Claim 26 comprising a buffering agent, an isotonicity, a suspending agent and a dispersing agent.

29. The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to Claim 28, wherein the buffering agent

is sodium citrate or sodium acetate.

30. The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to Claim 28, wherein the isotonicity is concentrated glycerin and/or propylene glycol.

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31. The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to Claim 28, wherein the suspending agent is polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

32. An eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to Claim 28, wherein the dispersing agent is a surfactant and/or sodium alginate.

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33. The eye drop formulation in the form of an aqueous suspension according to the above-mentioned Claim 32 wherein the surfactant is tyloxapol or polysorbate 80.

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Fig. 1

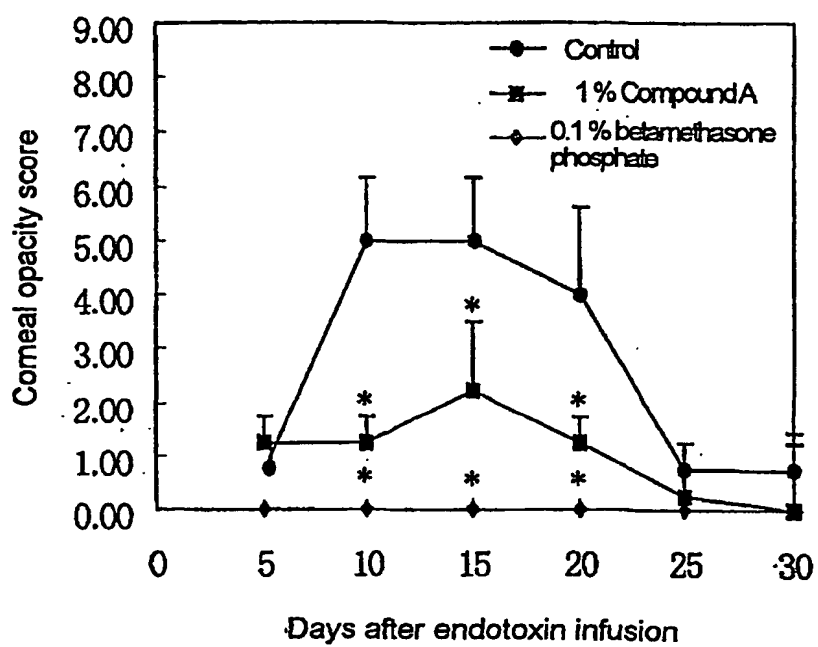


Fig. 2

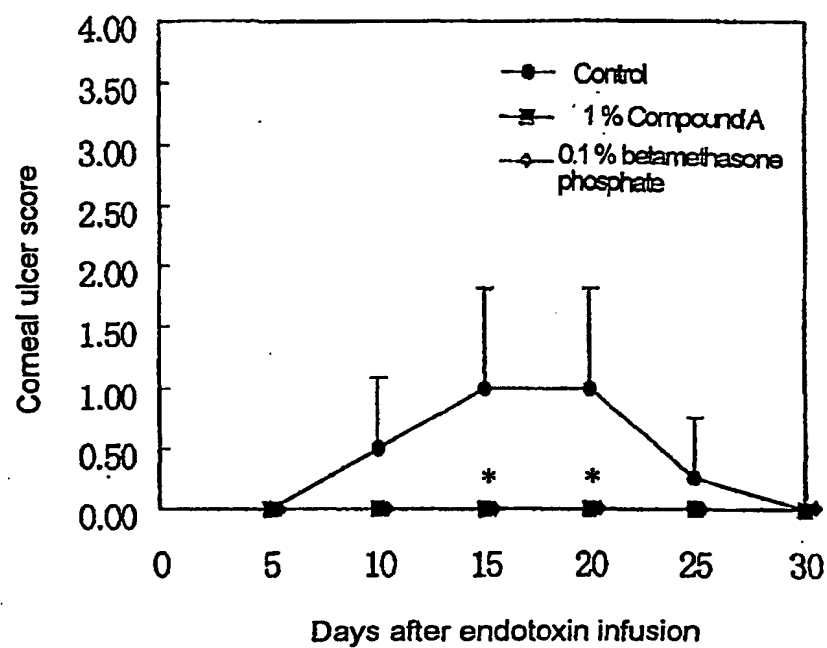


Fig. 3

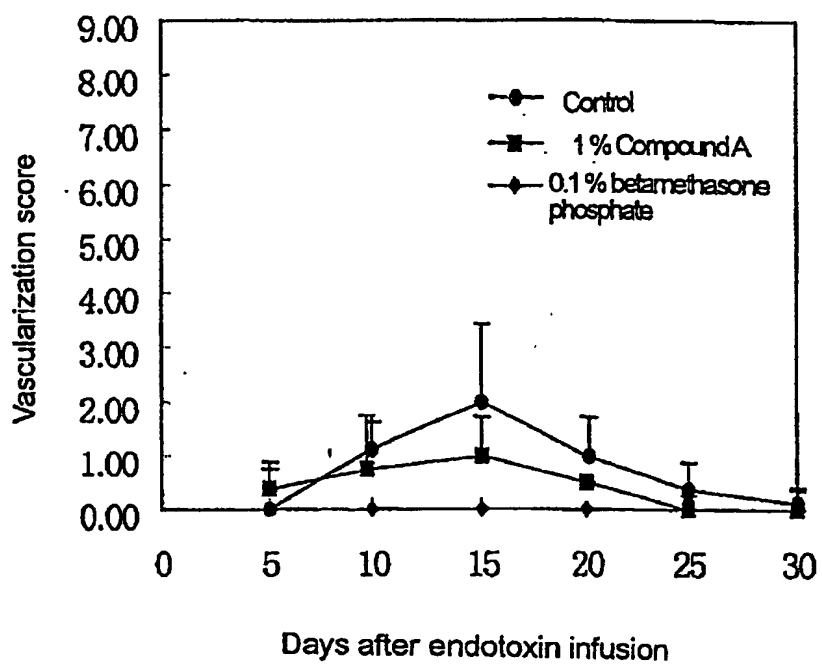


Fig. 4

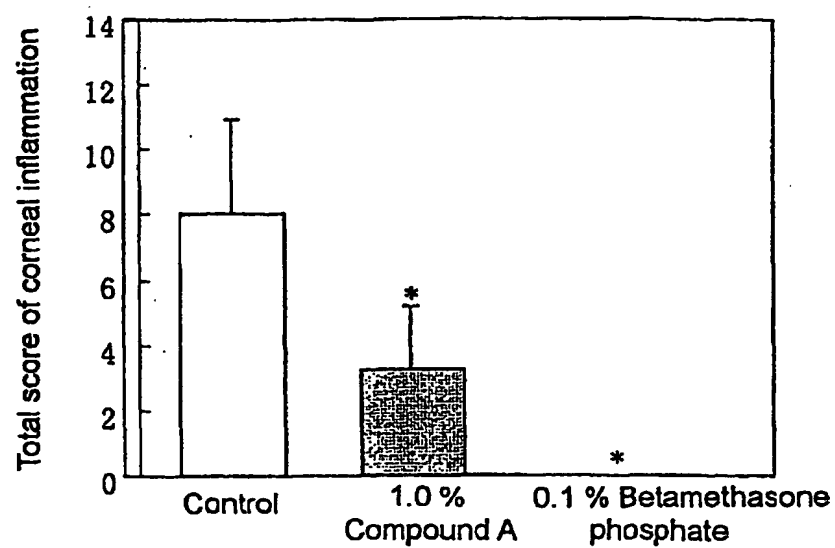


Fig. 5

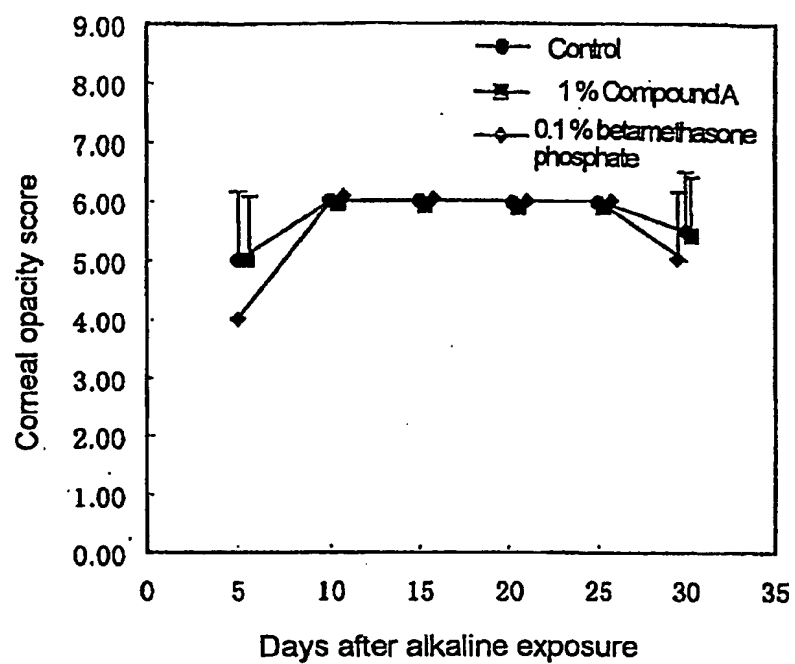


Fig. 6

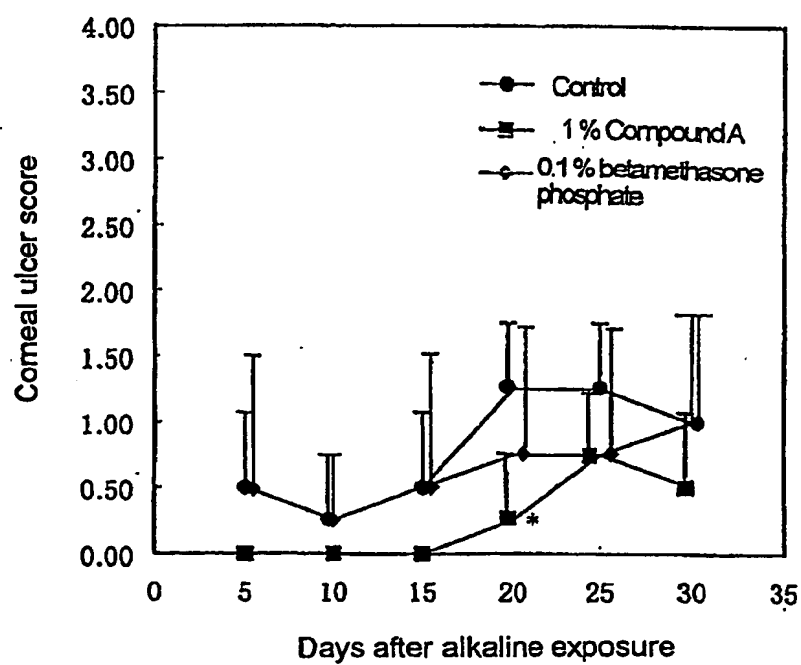


Fig. 7

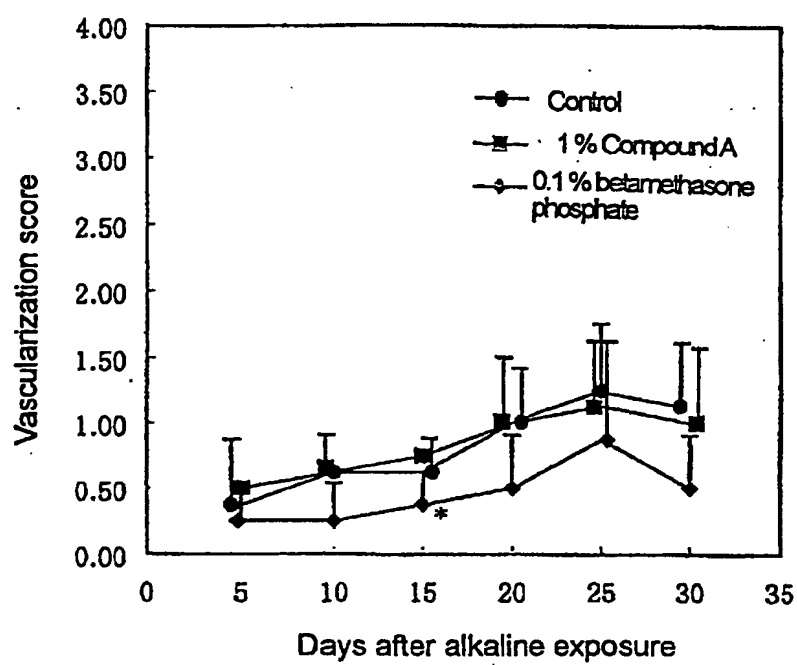


Fig. 8

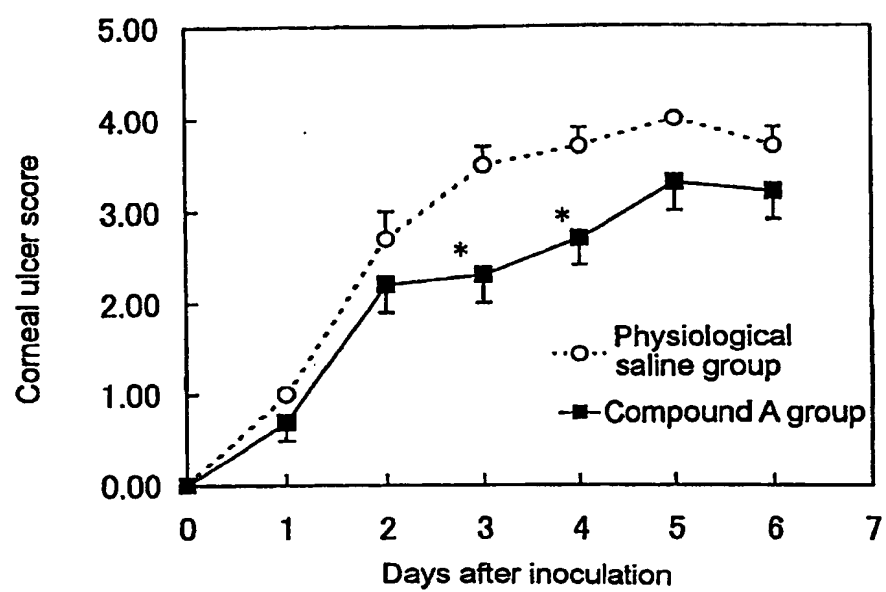
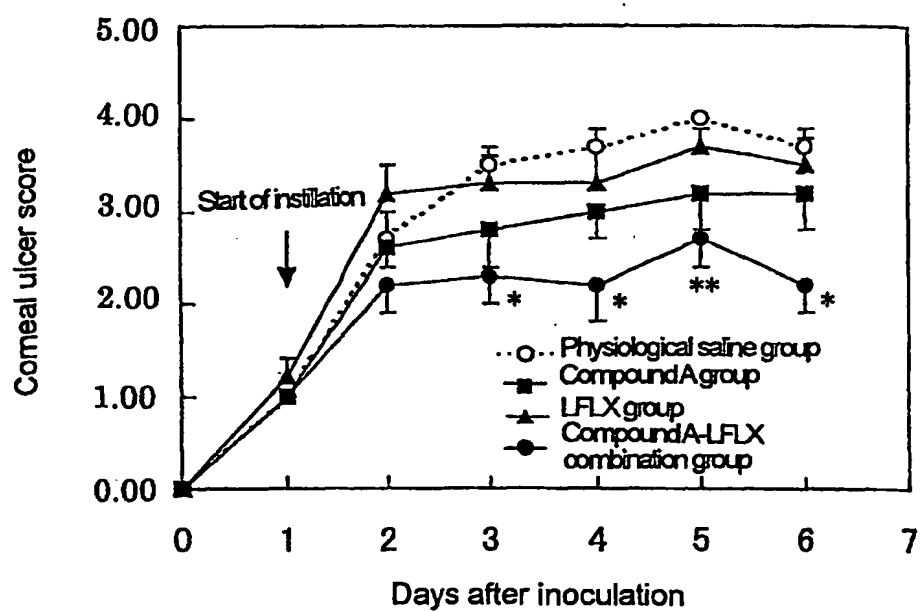


Fig. 9



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06014

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int.Cl ⁷ A61K31/235, 9/10, 9/06, 47/04, 47/12, 47/10, 47/32, A61P27/02		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
Int.Cl ⁷ A61K31/235, 9/10, 9/06, 47/04, 47/12, 47/10, 47/32, A61P27/02		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
CAPLUS (STN)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP, 539223, A1 (Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.), 28 April, 1993 (28.04.93), & JP, 5-194366, A & CA, 2081268, A & US, 5359121, A	1-11,19-33
Y	EP, 347168, A1 (Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.), 20 December, 1989 (20.12.89), (especially, page 16, compound 2(63)) & JP, 3-20253, A & US, 5017610, A & CA, 1340191, A	1,3-11,19, 21-33
Y	WO, 90/04409, A1 (University of Kentucky Research Foundation), 03 May, 1990 (03.05.90), (Claims 21-40, page 131, line 34 to page 136, line 5), & US, 5008245, A & US, 5922319, A & CA, 2001629, A & EP, 367514, A2 & EP, 396709, A1 & AU, 8945110, A	1-11,19-33
Y	J. Cejkova et al., "Histochemical changes in the rabbit cornea and plasmin activity in the tear fluid during contact lens wear. Favourable influence of protease inhibitors	1-11,19-33
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 16 November, 2000 (16.11.00)		Date of mailing of the international search report 05 December, 2000 (05.12.00)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office		Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06014

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	(aprotinin, PC5, elastatinal)" Histochemistry, Vol.97, No.1 (1992), pp.69-76	
Y	A. Spierer et al., "The effect of 2-mercaptoacetyl-L-phenylalanyl-L-leucine, a specific inhibitor of Pseudomonas aeruginosa elastase, on experimental Pseudomonas keratitis in rabbit eyes," Curr. Eye Res., Vol.3, No.4, (1984), pp.645-650	1-11,19-33

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06014

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 12-18
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 12 to 18 pertain to methods for treatment of the human body by therapy
(PCT Article 17(2)(a)(i) and Rule 39.1(iv)).
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet (1)) (July 1992)